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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas Thoroe SCHERB et al.

Group Art Unit: 1731

Appln. No. : 10/743,461

Examiner: Eric J. HUG

Filed : April 26, 2004

**Confirmation No.: 8138**

For : MACHINE AND METHOD FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A FIBER  
MATERIAL WEB

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 3, 2003, and in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit a copy of a European Search Report dated July 5, 2007, with respect to European Patent Application No. EP 07 10 6782, which is a counterpart of the instant application. Applicants also submit herewith a partial English language translation of the Communications/Minutes (Annex) to the Search Report for the Examiner's consideration and review. The European Examiner cited:

(1) European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 289 477 A, published November 2, 1988. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as an "X" document, i.e., as particularly relevant when considered alone, with regard to Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-10, and 12 of the European Application, with reference made to Claim 4, the Figures, Column 6 (lines 6-55), and Column 7 (line 45) to Column 8 (lines 22) of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note,

as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 3, 2003, a copy is not submitted herewith.

(2) U.S. Patent No. 5,092,962 (KOSKI), issued March 3, 1992. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as an "A" document, i.e., technological background, with regard to Claim 1 of the European Application, with reference made to the Abstract, the Figures, and Column 4 (lines 44-68) of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note, as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 3, 2003, a copy is not submitted herewith.

(3) German Patent Application Publication No. DE 196 54 198, published June 25, 1998. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as a "D" document, i.e., cited in the specification, as well as an "A" document, with regard to Claims 2 and 3 of the European Application, with reference made to the Abstract, the Figures, Column 4 (lines 42-62), and Column 7 (line 61) to Column 2 (line 2) of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note, as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 3, 2003, a copy is not submitted herewith.

(4) German Patent Application Publication No. DE 196 54 197, published June 25, 1998. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as a "D" document, as well as an "A" document, with regard to Claims 3, 5, and 6 of the European Application, with reference made to the Abstract, the Figures, Column 3 (Lines 28-45), and Column 4 (lines 7-59) of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note, as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 3, 2003, a copy is not submitted herewith.

(5) European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 852 273 A, published July 8, 1998. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as a "D" document, as well as an

“A” document, with regard to Claim 8 of the European Application, with reference made to Column 3 (lines 22-25) and Figure 2 of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note, as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed August 4, 2004, a copy is not submitted herewith. However, Applicants note U.S. Patent No. 6,228,221 B1 (LOSER et al.), issued May 8, 2001, is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. Patent family member;

(6) International Publication No. WO 98/00604 A1, published January 8, 1998. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as a “D” document, as well as an “A” document, with regard to Claim 10 of the European Application, with reference made to the Abstract and Figure 1 of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note, as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 3, 2003, a copy is not submitted herewith.

(7) International Publication No. WO 97/43483 A1, published November 20, 1997. This document is categorized in the European Search Report as an “A” document, with regard to Claim 11 of the European Application, with reference made to the Abstract, Figures 1 and 2, and Examples 1 and 2 of the cited document. Furthermore, Applicants note, as this document is cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed August 4, 2004, a copy is not submitted herewith. However, Applicants note U.S. Patent No. 6,350,349 B1 (HERMANS et al.), issued February 26, 2002, is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. Patent family member;

A copy of the Search Report for European Patent Application No. EP 07 10 6782 and a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing the identified U.S. Patent family members of items (5) and (7) are being submitted herewith. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to

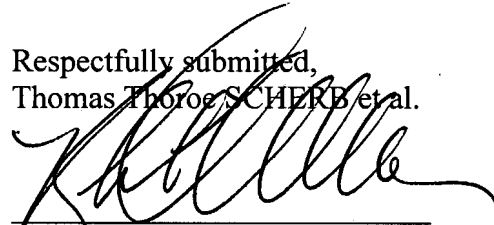
consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the next official communication.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to partially waive the requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) and (iii), copies of the U.S. Patents cited above are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants note that as each document cited in the counterpart application was previously cited and only U.S. Patent family members of previously cited items (5) and (7) are identified for consideration by the Examiner, no certification is required for the Examiner's consideration of these items. Moreover, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the above-cited material.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Thoroe SCHERB et al.



Neil F. Greenblum  
Reg. No. 28,394

Robert W. Mueller  
Reg. No. 35,043

July 30, 2007  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
P24575Application No.  
10/743,461INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant  
Thomas Thoroe SCHERB et al.Filing Date  
April 26, 2004Group  
1731

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6 2 2 8 2 2 1	05/08/01	LOSER et al.			
	6 3 5 0 3 4 9	02/26/02	HERMANS et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.